Grievances of Viscose Filament Yarn Industry

682. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Viscose Filament Yarn Industry has complained of drastic fall in off-take, growing production costs and unfair. competition from imported yarn; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is keeping a constant watch on the situation.

National Institute of Fashion Technology

683. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount Government have invested and plans to invest further in the National Institute of Fashion Technology; and

(b) whether Government are aware that exports want such an institute to be run by industry itself, rather than by Government; if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The approved outlay for the 7th Plan period for the National Institute of Fashion Technology is Rs. 8.99 crores. The budget estimate for the first year (1986-87) is Rs. 1.45 crores and this amount is expected to be utilised by the end of the current financial year.

(b) No, Sir.

Fire Advisory Committee

684. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when did the Fire Advisory Committee under Major General Shinghal and the Khanna Commission submit their reports after the Gopala Tower fire and Siddarth Hotel fire and what were their recommendations, separately/specifically about the old and new 191 buildings and three timber markets of Delhi;

(b) which of the recommendations have been accepted and which ones have not been found acceptable by Government and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what preventive steps have already been taken or proposed to be taken by Government to prevent any such fire in the said 194 buildings and markets of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) The Fire Advisory Committee under Major General Shinghal submitted one report on the 6th February, 1986 and 2nd report on the 6th August, 1986. The Committee inspected various buildings constructed prior to June, 1983 and the 3 timber markets, advising fire fighting measures in each case.

The report of the Khanna Comission of Inquiry pertaining to fire at Hotel Siddarth Continental was submitted on the 31st March, 1986. The report of the Commission along with the memorandum of action taken on the various recommendations made by it was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1986.

The recommendations of the Committee/Commission include modernisation of Delhi Fire Service with new equipment/appliances, training, organisational control raising of funds, creating fire safety cell, etc.

(b) The recommendations made by the Committee/Commission have been generally accepted.

(c) The management of the high-rise buildings which have been found to be deficient in fire safety/protection measures, have been given a directive to make provisions like 6 mtr. approach, water storage, automatic sprinkler system, fire alarm, public address system, exit signs, emergency power supply, fire fighting equipment etc. Under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986, recently enacted, penalty of imprisonment and fire can be imposed if the directions of the Chief Fire Officer are not carried out.

Chinese objection in granting Statehood to Arunachal Pradesh

685. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has raised certain objections over the conferment of Statehood to Arunachal Pradesh warning of serious consequences and that turning back from its 1981 package proposal of recognition of McMohan line has now asked for territorial concessions to settle the border dispute;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) China has objected to the conferment of Statehood on Arunachal Pradesh. In a statement issued on the 11th December, 1986, a spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs warned that "the consequences arising therefrom will be serious". During Official-Level Talks held in November, 1985, and again in July, 1986, the Chinese side reiterated their unjustified claim to 90,000 sq. kms. of Indian territory in the Eastern Sector and also stated that the only way to solve the boundary question was through mutual understanding and mutual accommodation.

(c) Government have rejected the Chinese objections to the grant of Statehood to Arunchal Pradesh and regret this interference in the internal affairs of India, since Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of the Indian Union. Government intend to continue discussions with China on the boundary question in order to reach a just and satisfactory settlement covering all sectors of the boundary.

Extension of term of Municipal Corporation of Delhi

686. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for extending the four year term of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi by one year; and

(b) by when the elections to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi are likely to be held now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) The term has been extended as it was considered that the elections to the Metropolitan Council Delhi which are due in early February, 1988, and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi are held simultaneously in the interest of economy, and to avoid, in the present context, strain on the Administration.

Supply of anti-aircraft missiles to Mujahideens in Afghanistan by America

687. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that United States have recently decided to supply Stinger anti-aircraft missiles